

February 24, 2014

Drug Freedom Task Force:

The unwritten story behind “died suddenly” within each so-published obituary.

According to the State Medical Examiner’s Office, more than one person in Connecticut became a drug fatality every day of every week of every month in 2013 without the murderer brought to justice.

In sympathy with the bereaved, published obituaries omit the cause of death for drug-related fatalities.

526 drug-related fatalities in Connecticut in 2013 seems to be of no great concern to law enforcement, since the policing authorities appear to have no mandate to locate and prosecute the perpetrator of each drug-related fatality. An opiate overdose-fatality is simply not considered to constitute a homicide.

The wailing and sorrow of loved ones seems to be the only result of each drug-related fatality. No consequence is seen to befall the murderer. The death is just another part of an ever-growing statistic. No consequence. No justice.

Senate Bill 39 would have as its primary purpose to harm those who murder through the sale and distribution of narcotics. The secondary purpose would be to enable every town of less than 75,000 people to collect the applicable civil tax according to state statute in effect since 1991. Per our late Chief States Attorney and a member of our Drug Freedom Task Force, John (Jack) Bailey, the Department of Revenue Services was proven to be admittedly and grossly ineffective. The local town tax collectors were shown to be the best method available to collect the drug-related property taxes estimated to be \$100 million at the minimum when allowing a collection ratio of only 50 percent.

Senate Bill 39, once enacted, will prove to be the constitutionally-viable solution to effectively harm the illegal drug traffickers in their pocketbook and halt the ever-escalating number of drug-fatalities in Connecticut.

Thank you.

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